

ORIG: COL. JACK LEDFORD
UNIT: AD/OSA
EXT: [REDACTED]
DATE: 7 JULY 1964

TOP SECRET

1	AD/OSA	9	NS
2	AD/OSA	10	AD/OSA
3	AD/OSA	11	AD/OSA
4	AD/OSA	12	AD/OSA
5	AD/OSA	13	AD/OSA
6	AD/OSA	14	AD/OSA
7	AD/OSA	15	AD/OSA
8	AD/OSA	16	AD/OSA
DEFERRED		XX	PRIORITY
ROUTINE			OPERATIONAL IMMEDIATE

TO: [REDACTED]

FROM: DIRECTOR

CONF:

INFO: OSA 1-15

25X1

15513
25X1

TO: PRIORITY [REDACTED]

INFO: [REDACTED]

CITE: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] TACKLE [REDACTED]

25X1

25X1

FOR [REDACTED] FROM COL. LEDFORD

1. NEEDLESS TO SAY I AM VERY SADDENED AND DISTRESSED OVER OUR LOSS OF THE ACFT, BUT PARTICULARLY CONCERNED ABOUT THE FATE OF [REDACTED] HE AND I HAD BECOME GOOD FRIENDS AS WELL AS TENNIS PARTNER AND I HAVE BEEN ESPECIALLY FOND OF [REDACTED] PLEASE PASS MY CONCERN AND DISTRESS TO [REDACTED] AS WELL AS OTHER MEMBERS OF THE TEAM.

2. FROM MY ANALYSIS OF THE INFORMATION AVAILABLE AT THIS TIME IT LOOKS LIKE [REDACTED] RECEIVED A NEAR MISS WHICH CRIPPLED THE ACFT AND POSSIBLY INCAPACITATED HIM. THE TIME SEQUENCE OF THE APPARENT TURN FROM TRACK OF 45° ACCORDING TO THE TACTICAL DOCTRINE, FOLLOWED BY HIS [REDACTED] WARNING, FOLLOWED BY AN OMINOUS SILENCE FROM BOTH THE [REDACTED] GIVES A SEQUENCE OF EVENTS THAT IS FAIRLY CONCLUSIVE. IT DOES APPEAR FROM

COORDINATING OFFICER:

TOP SECRET

RELEASING OFFICER

GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

AUTHENTICATING OFFICER

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CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

ORIG :
UNIT :
EXT :
DATE :

TOP SECRET

ROUTING

1		9	
2		10	
3		11	
4		12	
5		13	
6		14	
7		15	
8		16	
APPROPRIATE	DEFERRED	PRIORITY	INITIALS
	ROUTINE	OPERATIONAL IMMEDIATE	INITIALS

TO :

FROM:

CONF:

INFO :

PAGE 2

TO

INFO

CITE

OTHER [] REPORTS THAT HE MAY HAVE BEEN FLYING FOR FIVE TO SEVEN MINUTES AFTER THE ASSUMED HIT, WHICH LEAVES ME WITH SOME HOPE THAT HE WAS ABLE TO MAKE THE WATER. I URGE THE MOST COMPLETE POSSIBLE RESCUE EFFORTS FOR TODAY. MAKE SURE THAT [] UTILIZES ALL AVAILABLE FACILITIES POSSIBLE.

3. I HAD CONSIDERED MOVING ONE OF THE THREE ACFT AT [] [] IN AN ATTEMPT TO PROVIDE A COVER FOR ANY POSSIBLE INQUIRIES BUT HAVE DECIDED THAT THE BEST THING TO DO AT THIS TIME IS TO REMAIN QUIET AND GO ~~THE~~ UNDERGROUND AND NOT RISK ANY U-2 ACTIVITY UNTIL WE KNOW MORE ABOUT THE SITUATION.

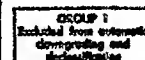
4. AIR FORCE HAS LAID ON A REQUIREMENT TO [] TO OBTAIN PRIORITY READOUT OF [] FROM MISSION C174C, I HOPE WE WILL BE ABLE TO OBTAIN SOME COLLABORATING EVIDENCE FROM THAT READOUT.

COMPLIMENTS TO [] ON A FINE FLIGHT ON C174C. 25X1

END OF MESSAGE
COORDINATING OFFICERS

COL. JACK LEDFORD
AD/OSA
RELEASING OFFICER

TOP SECRET



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